

Oxford Democrat.

No. 36, Vol. 3, New Series.

Paris, Maine, Tuesday, January 16, 1844.

Old Series, No. 47, Vol. 11.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY

George W. Gillett,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Members of the Senate

and House of Representatives:

Our system of annual elections will frequently bring into places of high responsibility, persons who have the benefit of no previous experience in the respective situations they are called upon to fill; and at times will devolve upon new and untried hands the most important political trusts.

In assuming the duties assigned me by the suffrages of the people, I cannot be unconscious of the force of this objection, nor unmindful of the deficiencies in myself which it necessarily implies.

There are, however, many advantages in the changes which our system of popular elections is calculated to produce. If the State is sometimes temporarily deprived of ability matured by long experience in some particular branch of the public service, a more certain reflection of the popular will, a deeper sense of immediate dependence upon the people they serve, and a nearer responsibility to the tribunal of the public on the part of those entrusted with political power, is created and secured.

Distrusting, therefore, my own ability, I yet enter upon the discharge of the responsible functions committed to me, with a confident reliance upon a disposition honestly and faithfully to discharge them; and with a firm persuasion, that in a resolute purpose of fidelity and zeal in the public service, will be found the safest guarantee for their proper performance.

Among the subjects which will claim your earliest consideration, that which involves the care of our State finances may be regarded as of paramount importance. The large amount of our State debt, and the necessity it creates for the imposition of a heavy tax, at a time when the pecuniary embarrassments of our fellow citizens render them the least able to bear it, has occasioned serious uneasiness and anxiety in the public mind, and the community now look with deep solicitude to the proper authorities of the State, for such a wise and frugal administration of its finances as shall lessen, as far as possible, the public burdens.

At the date of the last annual report of the Treasurer, the whole funded debt of the State amounted to about \$1,700,000, redeemable at different periods, and most of it bearing an interest of six per cent. Since that time there has been received from the General Government, under the provision of the late treaty with Great Britain, the sum of \$150,000; there has been allowed and paid to the Treasurer the further sum of \$207,000, being the whole amount appropriated by Congress in payment of the expenses of our civil pose upon the disputed territory; and of the claim for military services incurred in defending our northeastern frontier, \$76,000 has also been received. These items make an aggregate of \$433,000. There still remains due about \$200,000, some of which will require a new appropriation by Congress before it can be paid; a portion of this balance has been passed upon by the proper accounting officers, and will probably be paid during the present year.

The large amount paid into the Treasury by the Land Agent with the other ordinary sources of revenue, has enabled the Treasurer to meet all the liabilities of the Treasury during the past year, including the interest upon the public debt; and the whole sum received from the General Government may be available to the payment of so much of the principal.

In pursuance of the Resolve of 24th March, 1843, the sum of \$62,000, consisting chiefly of the six per cent, stock of the State, has been redeemed by the Treasurer; but the terms of the Resolve having limited that officer to the purchase of all the stock, the sudden and unexpected appreciation in the market value of all the safe public securities, has prevented the redemption of any further sums. The Treasurer's Report will therefore show, after meeting all the current expenses of the year, including interest upon the public debt, and the payment of \$62,000 of the principal, the sum of \$88,000 remaining in the Treasury. Assuming it to be the deliberate sense of the Legislature and the people, that the debt of the State shall be extinguished as rapidly as possible, it is unfortunate that a somewhat greater latitude had not been allowed to the Treasurer by the Resolve referred to. A considerable portion of the large amount now in his hands was received early in the year, and had he been authorized to pay a small premium upon the State securities, nearly a year's interest would have been saved to the State. There will be due in February and March of next year, a large amount of the six per cent stock, and in 1844 about \$123,000 of the five per cent, will be also payable. It is believed that these portions of the debt may be purchased at a trifling advance, and it would unquestionably be for the interest of the State to cancel these claims, even by the allowance of a small premium, rather than to incur the hazard of investing for so short a period the money on hand. I would therefore respectfully

suggest the expediency of so enlarging the authority of the Treasurer as to empower him to purchase upon the best terms, so much of the State stock as the amount of money now in the Treasury, together with that to be received from the General Government during the year, will enable him to procure.

Should the whole amount expected from the general Government be paid to the Treasurer during the present year, and none of it appropriated to other objects, as I trust it will not be, upwards of \$600,000 of the State debt may be extinguished. There will then remain the large sum of \$1,100,000 to be provided for in some other way. To meet the interest upon this sum, and to defray the ordinary charges upon the Treasury under the present scale of expenditures, a heavy tax will still be necessary, and unless considerable reductions be made in the public expenses, or the means of the Treasury be enlarged by other sources of revenue, no diminution of the present tax can safely be contemplated.

It will be seen from the foregoing statement, that the whole amount of the State tax, together with all the other incidental receipts into the Treasury, have been but little above the sum required for the expenses of our State government, and the payment of the interest upon the public debt during the past year; and that even in the event of the reduction now contemplated in the principal of the debt, with the same rate of receipts and expenditures, but little would be left at the end of the present year towards its liquidation.

It has been proposed to diminish the calls upon the Treasury, by transferring the payments of cost in criminal prosecutions to the Treasuries of the several Counties in which they may act. The advantages of this change are fully set forth in the last annual report of the Treasurer, and the reasons there given in its favor seem to me conclusive as to its expediency and propriety.

Prior to the year 1833, the yearly tax paid by the Banks was applied to the use of the State, and formed a considerable item of income to the Treasury. It was at that time withdrawn from the general purposes of the Treasury, and converted into an annual School Fund, since which it has been distributed to the towns for the encouragement and support of our common Schools.

Under the pressing exigencies of the two last years, it has been proposed to recall this sum for the uses of the Treasury; and its reception by the Treasurer would doubtless form an important and acceptable item in aid of his resources.

The reluctance hitherto manifested by the Legislature to divert this fund from the laudable purpose for which it has been set apart will not probably be diminished by the improving condition of our finances; and however desirable it may be to increase the means of the Treasury, I do not feel at liberty, under present circumstances, to repeat the recommendation of my predecessor, to reconvert it to its former object.

This view of our finances, showing as it does

the existence of a public debt, though considerably diminished from last year, is still formidable in amount, with but little available resources for its liquidation, except the sums annually raised by direct taxation upon the people, cannot fail to admonish us of the necessity of a rigid and systematic frugality, in all the concerns of the pecuniary affairs of the State. To discharge the interest upon this debt, and to defray the ordinary expenses of the government, an onerous tax will be required. To meet those unavoidable liabilities—to preserve inviolate the public faith, and to maintain with honor and dignity every department of the government, the intelligent and patriotic citizens of our State will cheerfully contribute. But while submitting without complaint to these necessary exactions, they have a right to demand that the strictest economy should pervade every branch of the public service—that every expenditure should be narrowly scrutinized, and all unnecessary liabilities avoided.

It is believed by many that the ordinary charge of supporting our State government is much too large, and that a close examination of the different items of expenditure would demonstrate the practicability of a considerable reduction—that there are some offices which might be abolished without detriment to the public interest, and the compensation to others reduced, without injuries. I respectfully invite the attention of the Legislature, in the hope that a careful and faithful scrutiny into the public expenditures, accompanied by an inflexible determination to cut off every useless charge upon the Treasury, may result in no inconsiderable saving of the public money.

In the above exposition of the condition of the Treasury, I have made no reference to the sum due from the general government under the act of Congress, passed September 4th, 1841, appropriating the proceeds of the sales of the public lands for distribution among the States. This sum amounting to upwards of \$17,000, is now in the Treasury of the United States, and unless its reception be authorized by the Legislature, will accrue to the benefit of the general government. In the annual messages communicated to the Legislature by my distinguished predecessor, the constitutionality and expediency of this law are elaborately examined, and the policy of the system proposed to be established, reprobated with just and well merited severity. The opinions thus expressed by the Executive were promptly responded by the Legislature, and such is the universal condemnation it has received from the people, that but few intelligent men of any party are now found to approve it. In declining to participate in this alienation of national revenue, while such participation would seem to countenance or en-

communicating with Fort Kent, at the mouth of the Penobscot river. This important, and in fact only avenue of our lands and settlements upon the upper St. John, is almost impassable except in winter, and as it traverses through the entire length of the public lands, a suitable appropriation for its improvement and repair, would be fully repaid by the increased value it would give to public property.

The Report of the Adjutant General will advise you of the present condition of the militia. Considering a well organized and efficient militia as an indispensable feature in our scheme of self-government—as some times essential to the maintenance of public order, and always our principal reliance against foreign aggression, I lament to perceive the decreasing regard evinced by many of our citizens for its respectability and success. It is gratifying, however, to know that this indifference is not universal; and that in some sections of the State, vigorous exertions have recently been made to awaken a new and deeper interest in the prosperity of this useful and necessary institution. The earnest and repeated attempts of the State government to improve its condition, and to elevate its character, by Legislative enactments, have attested the concern it has constantly had for this important arm of our defence, and may be considered as an assurance that it will favor and encourage every well directed effort for its future improvement.

The Constitution of the United States has empowered the General Government to provide for an uniform organization and discipline of the Militia. Some years since, when our relations with a formidable foreign power were supposed to threaten a hostile collision, this duty was attempted by Congress; and by its direction, a plan was matured for organizing and instructing a portion of the militia of each State at the public expense. The outlines and most of the details of this plan were similar to those before recommended and which had received the sanction of many of the most enlightened and patriotic statesmen of the country. It unfortunately happened, that this plan was presented at a time, when the public mind was highly excited by an ardent political contest, and it was immediately set aside by one of the parties, as a means of casting odium and reproach upon the other. Among the many topics discussed during that exciting period, none was more prominent than that denominated, in the party vocabulary of the day, the standing army; and such was the persevering, and I regret to say, successful clamor raised against it, that the project was abandoned, and has not since been revived. It is to be hoped that the attention of Congress will again be called to this subject, and that under happier auspices, a system will be adopted, which will give us the benefit of a powerful and efficient citizen militia, without imposing upon any class of our fellow-citizens any unnecessary or unequal burden. In the meantime, in any efforts which the Legislature may think proper to make to renovate the condition of the militia of this State, I shall cheerfully co-operate.

The Reports of the Warden and Inspectors of the State Prison will be laid before you. For a particular statement of the condition and affairs of that establishment, I refer you to those documents. I also transmit herewith the Reports of the Superintendent and Directors of the Hospital for Insane. That this philanthropic Institution is fulfilling the hopes of its patrons and founders, affording a suitable refuge to those of our unfortunate fellow beings to whom Providence, in its inscrutable wisdom, has denied the guidance of the present tariff to afford the necessary revenue to the government, would now seem to be demonstrated, and in its revision by Congress, we may hope, that all the great industrial interests of the country will be deemed equally deserving of a sufficient advantage over foreign competition.

As the system is now arranged, I cannot but consider it as partial and unjust. Through its influence, one branch of the National industry may have been quickened into greater activity, and the capital invested in manufacturing establishments made to render larger profits; but the other, to us more material branches of Agriculture and Commerce, both equally important to the public prosperity, are still languishing and depressed, and without any near prospect of essential improvement. In behalf of these great national interests, little governmental interference has ever been solicited, but justice and good policy alike demand, that they should be crippled and disabled by no partial or unfriendly legislation, or their prosperity impeded by the adoption of a system, the burthens of which fall wholly upon them, while its benefits accrue exclusively to some more favored pursuit. The insufficiency of the present tariff to afford the necessary revenue to the government, would now seem to be demonstrated, and in its revision by Congress, we may hope, that all the great industrial interests of the country will be deemed equally deserving of attention and regard.

For a particular account of the operations of the Land Offices, I refer you to the report of the Agent, herewith transmitted. It is gratifying to perceive that the receipts into the Treasury from this department have considerably exceeded the estimate of the Treasurer; and I trust we may be justified in anticipating a steadily increasing revenue from its future operations. The sum of \$55,000 has been paid into the Treasury by the Land Agent; the amount expended upon roads under the Resolves of the last Legislature, together with the expenses of the commission to locate grants to the settlers upon the St. John and the cost of exploring and surveying upon the undivided lands, amounting in all to about \$10,000, have also been paid out of the funds realized in that department during the year.

The Legislature of last year, with a provident liberality, appropriated the sum of six thousand dollars for the purpose of locating and opening a road from Letter G, in the second range, upon the Aroostook river, directly to the Madawaska settlements upon the St. John; but as the expenditure of this sum depended upon the co-operation of the State of Massachusetts to a like extent, only one half of the appropriation has been used by the Agent. With the amount expended, the road has been located and so far made, as to render it practicable for a winter route. The importance of opening a direct communication with these settlements, now within our acknowledged limits, is fully set forth in the last annual report of the Land Agent; if there

are also other suggestions in that document, relative to the condition and wants of the residents in these settlements, well worthy the attention of the Legislature.

I would also invite your attention to the suggestions of the Land Agent, in regard to the road

positions have at different times been presented

all of which seem to look to a gradual enlargement of the specie basis of the Banks, as best calculated to furnish a salutary corrective against excessive issues, and to afford the most constant and efficient check to the tendency to overbank, which those institutions have so often manifested. If, in addition to the restrictions and guards now established, further limitations should be deemed advisable, a considerable foresight would seem to point to their early adoption. The charters of all the Banks will expire in the year 1847, and it is proper, that if any considerable change is intended to be made in the charters, then to be given, the institutions interested should be seasonably admonished of the terms upon which their continuance will depend.

In the wise and happy distribution of powers

ordained by our complex political system, subjects of natural interest are exclusively confined to the management of the general government. Without the power to direct or control its operations, it is yet not unusual or improper for the States, to express the opinions entertained by their constituents upon matters nearly affecting their welfare and happiness.

The Legislature of last year, having given its

attention to several topics of national interest, upon all of which the sentiments of a majority of the people were truly reflected, it is not my purpose now to invite a renewed discussion; nor is it believed that any thing need be added to strengthen the convictions of our fellow citizens in favor of that system of policy, under which prior to the last change in its administration, the country was so generally prosperous and happy.

Upon the subject of a National Bank, the Legislature and people of this State have frequently spoken in the most decided and unequivocal terms. The opposition manifested to such an institution, in its days of prosperity and power, has lost nothing of its force, by the melancholy developments of later times; and if it was then considered dangerous to the liberties and corrupting to the morals of the people, subsequent experience has proved equally injurious to the business and currency of the country.

The general soundness of the local currencies, and the consequent equalization of the exchanges between the most distant points, now maintained without the agency of a National Bank, are conclusive proofs, that these desirable results may be effected by other and safer means; and an attempt, under present circumstances, to re-establish a similar institution, would seem to evince an utter disregard of the warnings of example and the teachings of experience.

The management of our national finances is

always a subject of interest to the people. Their present condition is certainly unsatisfactory and alarming; an insufficient revenue—large expenditures and a rapidly increasing debt, are the discouraging conclusions which a perusal of the public documents compels us to adopt. In the absence of any extraordinary calls upon the National Treasury, these repeated and growing deficits in the means of the government, are well calculated to awaken inquiry and concern. If not seasonably arrested, we may look for the certain accumulation of a heavy public debt, to be an unwelcome legacy to our posterity. To provide an adequate and timely remedy for these continued deficiencies, should be the first care of the national Legislature; and none could be found so desirable, or more effectual, than an immediate and extensive reduction of the public expenses. In a general system of retrenchment and economy, vigorously applied to all the departments of the government; in limited appropriations, and diminished expenditures of the public money, should the proper measures of relief be now looked for; and the strong voice of public sentiment, throughout the country, most distinctly points to such an alternative, as furnishing the safest and speediest remedy for an impoverished Treasury.

In regard to the administration of our State

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—reducing by every practicable means our annual expenditures, and of increasing by all proper expedients the resources of the Treasury.

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afforded for a full investigation of its merits and defects. That there are some faults in the present system is generally admitted; in seeking a remedy for these defects in an institution so closely interwoven with the habits and interests of the community, a wise discretion and an enlightened judgement are eminently called for.

Coming as you do from immediate communication with your constituents, among whom this measure has been a subject of considerable discussion, you will doubtless be prepared to express their matured opinions in regard to its expediency and propriety.

In closing this communication, I will take occasion to remark that however much a portion of our fellow citizens may have suffered during the past year by pecuniary distress of the times, there is in our present condition and future prospects much cause of mutual congratulation—high incitements to continued and vigorous efforts, and above all, manifold cause for gratitude and praise to that beneficent Being who has bestowed upon us the blessings we enjoy, and through whose goodness and mercy we have had so large a share of health and plenty prevailing among us. In commending our public duties, let us invoke His aid and counsel, and humbly ask that in the discharge of our public functions, we may be enabled through His guidance and blessing to advance the interest and promote the happiness of the people.

H. J. ANDERSON.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
Augusta, January 5, 1844.

LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Jan. 6.

On motion of Mr. Frye. Ordered, That the House concurring, all petitions presented to this Legislature, from and after the second day of February next, except those relating to subjects of general and public legislation, shall be referred to the next Legislature, and that no further action shall be had thereon.

Mr. Frye said, that in presenting this order, he did not wish to be understood, as being actuated by a sentiment of mere complaisant complaisance with the usage of former Legislatures; and without intending reflection upon any previous Legislature, he would say, that the almost uniform disregard of such orders when passed, had induced a belief among the people, that they were wholly illusory.

He believed it was well understood by every Senator at this board, that the people required and expect, that this Legislature would be governed by the principles of economy, industry and perseverance; and that no more time would be spent for this session than was absolutely necessary for the proper transaction of such business, as should come seasonably before the Legislature. He believed also that this expectation ought and could be realized. And call the Senators not to give their votes for the passage of the order, unless they intended to adhere to, and be governed by it, both in letter and spirit.

Mr. Atwood hoped that *very little time* would be occupied in promulgating professions of affection for a short session, but that every Senator would show his *faith by his works*.

The question was, on motion of Mr. Sawtelle, taken by yeas and nays, and every Senator voted in the affirmative—Mr. Anderson of Lincoln, absent by indisposition.

On motion of Mr. Gracelton. Ordered, That the House concurring, that the Messengers of each branch of this Legislature be directed to furnish the Reporters with one copy each of the printed Documents of this Legislature also forward to the several Editors of public papers in this State, one copy each of the same.

MONDAY, Jan. 8.

On motion of Mr. Brooks. Ordered, That Messrs. Brooks, Swan, Rose, Parcher, and Knowlton and such as the House may join, be a committee to take into consideration so much of the Governor's message, as relates to a change of the session of the Legislature, from winter to summer, and report thereon.

On motion of Mr. Atwood. Ordered, That so much of the Governor's message, as relates to the transferring of the payment of cost in criminal prosecutions to the Treasurers of the several counties in which they may accrue, be referred to a joint select committee. Messrs. Atwood, Chadwick and Deering on part of the Senate.

TUESDAY, Jan. 9.

Report of Resolves in relation to amendment of Constitution, and the adoption of the plurality system in elections, etc. Messrs. Brooks, Anderson, Mitchell, Brown, French, Holman and Townsend.

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of repealing an Act, entitled "An Act providing for the taxing of Rail Roads and Rail Road property in this State," passed March 17, 1843.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10.

Ordered, That so much of the Governor's message as relates to the reception by Maine, of her share of the products of the Public Land, during the present session of Congress, passed January 4th, 1841, be referred to a joint select committee. Messrs. Swan and Tallman, on part of the Senate.

The Joint Select Committee, appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of State, having attended to the duty assigned them, Report.

They have carefully examined the books and accounts of the Treasurer, and find each item and the aggregate correct; and the monies of the Treasury safely deposited in the several Banks, as appears by satisfactory vouchers; and the Committee take great pleasure in bearing testimony to the apparent great care and fidelity with which the duties of the office have been discharged by the present incumbent during the past year. Which is respectfully submitted.

EBENEZER OTIS, Chairman.

At 12 M. the Senate went into Convention with the House, and having returned, on motion of Mr. Otis, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, Jan. 6.

A propositor for a convention of the two Houses, this day at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State, was received from the Senate and concurring in by the House.

Mr. Perkins of Augusta called up the order in relation to the State printing and binding; and moved the following as an amendment:

"And that said committee be directed to issue proposals for the said printing and binding and to contract with such person or persons, as shall offer to do the same upon the most advantageous terms to the State; provided, that such persons as the committee shall contract with, furnish satisfactory bonds to the committee for the faithful performance of their contract."

Mr. Emery of Gorham, inquired if there was not upon the table an order from the Senate; and being informed by the Chair that there was, Mr. E. moved that the order be laid on the table which prevailed.

Mr. Grant of Litchfield, presented the petition of D. S. Woodman, of Litchfield, for a divorce; which on motion of Mr. G. was referred to the select committee on the petition of Fayette Mace for the same object.

At 12 o'clock the Senate came in, and the two Houses went into convention, for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State. The committee raised to receive, sort and count the votes, reported as follows:

Whole number of votes,	160
Necessary to a choice,	81
Philip C. Johnson,	117
George W. Perkins,	33
Samuel P. Benson,	5

Whereupon Philip C. Johnson, Esq. was declared duly elected Secretary of State.

The Convention then separated.

Mr. Knowlton of Liberty, called up the motion made on Thursday and laid on the table, to reconsider the vote whereby the House on Wednesday last refused to print 500 copies of the (vetoed) Town Court Bill.

A debate ensued, Messrs. Little of Portland, Woodman of Minot, Morrison of Livermore, Barnes of Portland, Ingersoll of Danville, Baker of Hallowell, Paine of Bangor, opposed the motion, and also expressed themselves against the bill itself.

The further consideration of the Bill was then on motion of Mr. Little, assigned to 11 o'clock on Thursday next. Adjourned.

MONDAY, Jan. 8.

Mr. Little of Portland, offered the following; Ordered, that the Committee on Finance be directed to report a resolve or resolves, authorizing the Treasurer to receive any and every sum of money due from the United States to this State or credited by the U States to this State, as the portion of the proceeds of the public lands, under the Distribution Act, belonging to this State.—Also, further authorizing the Treasurer, to convert the whole amount of money which has been or may be received into the Treasury in payment of the claims of this State against the U States, under the provisions of the late treaty with G. Britain, and under the provision to the Distribution Act, in the purchase of the scrip of this State at the lowest market value at which the same can be purchased.

On motion of Mr. Emery.

The above order was amended, by directing the committee to inquire into the expediency &c, and as amended, passed.

Mr. Little then moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the House concurred the Senate in the adoption of the order limiting the time for the reception of petitions.

Mr. Mildram was opposed to the motion. He moved that the motion be laid on the table and Saturday next assigned for its further consideration. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Emery of Gorham,

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire into the expediency of altering or repealing the law relative to the appeals from the decisions of County Commissioners.

TUESDAY, Jan. 6.

On motion of Mr. Linscott, of Jay, ordered that the committee on the judiciary he directed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the 17th Chapter of the Revised Statutes, as to leave it discretionary with Towns to instruct their Superintending School Committees in such a manner as they may think proper, with regard to visiting schools, unless called upon, to settle difficulties.

On motion of Mr. Mildram, of Wells, ordered that—consisting of one from each county, with such as the Senate may join be a committee to inquire into the expediency of providing a fixed yearly salary for County Commissioners, instead of the pay they now receive.

Mr. Knowlton of Montville, offered the following—Ordered, that so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the abolition of certain offices, and the reduction of salaries of others, be referred to a joint select committee, to consist of—members with such as the Senate may join.

Mr. Perkins of Augusta, moved to amend, by requesting the Governor to communicate to the Legislature, w^t offices in his opinion may be abolished without detriment to the public service and the salaries of what offices reduced.

The amendment was then rejected—yeas 24—nays 124.

Mr. Paine of Bangor was opposed to the order as the subject had been fully examined last year, without finding any opportunity for retrenchment.

Mr. Barnes of Portland had voted against the amendment for the reasons stated by the gentleman from Saco. He also opposed the order, on the ground of impossibility of one committee properly examining the whole subject.

Mr. Knowlton of Liberty spoke in favor of the order, and the necessity of retrenchment.

The order then passed, 84 to 22.

The Speaker appointed as this Committee, Messrs. Knowlton of Montville, Little, Jarvis, Bradbury, Paine of Bangor, Fox and Morill. Mr. Jarvis was excused, and Mr. Hubbard appointed in his stead. Mr. Little was also excused, and the chair appointed Mr. Baker of Hallowell, who also asked to be excused. Mr. Perkins of Au-

gusta hoped the House would excuse the gentleman, as he was a man of tender feelings, and could not resist the importunities of the officeholders who were round among the whig members imploring them to prevent their heads being cut off.

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The gentleman's propensity for this sort of work, naturally originally strong, had derived additional vigor from recent occurrences. To give him an opportunity to gratify it, to his heart's content, he hoped the gentleman would be appointed to fill the vacancy.

The Chair then appointed Mr. Perkins as one of the Committee, in place of Mr. Baker.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10.

On motion of Mr. Buxton of North Yarmouth, Ordered, That the Committee which have under consideration the subject of a new Valuation, report the names of the towns not having complied with the law for returning their valuations; and the best manner for obtaining such valuations as may not have been returned.

Mr. Hutchings of Penobscot, moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the House, on yesterday, passed the order, of Mr. Little, in relation to the reception of moneys under the Treaty and the Distribution Act.

Mr. Little raised a question of order, viz:—the vote having been once reconsidered, it could not be moved again.

The Speaker decided that the motion was in order. The motion was not to reconsider a vote which had once been reconsidered, but the vote of yesterday.

Mr. Little said, that under such a construction, the motion to reconsider could be made *ad infinitum*. Mr. L. argued the point at length; and in conclusion appealed from the decision of the Speaker.

Mr. Allen contended that no danger was to be apprehended from such a construction, because the rule required that the motion should be made by a member who had voted in the majority.

Messrs. Woodman of Minot, Baker of Hallowell and Paine of Bangor, each contended that the decision of the Chair was erroneous.

Mr. Barnes of Portland, inquired whether the Order was not already in the possession of the Finance Committee, and being informed that it was, he further stated they had commenced the consideration of the subject.

Mr. Jarvis spoke in favor of the decision of the Chair, and Mr. Little replied.

A motion was made to lay the appeal on the table, which was lost, 32 to 70.

The yeas and nays having been ordered on motion of Mr. Little, the question "shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?" was put and carried—yeas 87, nays 41.

Mr. Little moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table till half past 12 this day.

Ordered, That the committee on the Judiciary take into consideration the expediency of so far amending the laws respecting Rail Road corporations, that corporations shall be liable for damage done to neat cattle on their roads.

Ordered, That the committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of allowing any person to become an inholder or common victimaller, without a license, provided such person shall not retail spirituous liquors.

At 12 o'clock the houses went into convention for the election of State Treasurer, and following was the result of the balloting—

Whole number of votes,	159
Necessary to a choice,	80
James White,	115
Sanford Kingsbury,	44
Blanks,	2

And thereupon James White was declared duly elected Treasurer of State. The Convention then separated.

MONDAY, Jan. 8.

On motion of Mr. Brooks.

Ordered, That the Committee on Finance be directed to report a resolve or resolves, authorizing the Treasurer to receive any and every sum of money due from the United States to this State or credited by the U States to this State, as the portion of the proceeds of the public lands, under the Distribution Act, belonging to this State.—Also, further authorizing the Treasurer, to convert the whole amount of money which has been or may be received into the Treasury in payment of the claims of this State against the U States, under the provisions of the late treaty with G. Britain, and under the provision to the Distribution Act, in the purchase of the scrip of this State at the lowest market value at which the same can be purchased.

On motion of Mr. Emery,

The above order was amended, by directing the committee to inquire into the expediency &c, and as amended, passed.

Mr. Little then moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the House concurred the Senate in the adoption of the order limiting the time for the reception of petitions.

Mr. Mildram was opposed to the motion. He moved that the motion be laid on the table and Saturday next assigned for its further consideration. Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Emery of Gorham,

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire into the expediency of altering or repealing the law relative to the appeals from the decisions of County Commissioners.

TUESDAY, Jan. 6.

On motion of Mr. Linscott, of Jay, ordered that the committee on the judiciary he directed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the 17th Chapter of the Revised Statutes, as to leave it discretionary with Towns to instruct their Superintending School Committees in such a manner as they may think proper, with regard to visiting schools, unless called upon, to settle difficulties.

On motion of Mr. Mildram, of Wells, ordered that—consisting of one from each county, with such as the Senate may join be a committee to inquire into the expediency of providing a fixed yearly salary for County Commissioners, instead of the pay they now receive.

Mr. Knowlton of Montville, offered the following—Ordered, that so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the abolition of certain offices, and the reduction of salaries of others, be referred to a joint select committee, to consist of—members with such as the Senate may join.

Mr. Perkins of Augusta, moved to amend, by requesting the Governor to communicate to the Legislature, w^t offices in his opinion may be abolished without detriment to the public service and the salaries of what offices reduced.

The amendment was then rejected—yeas 24—nays 124.

Mr. Paine of Bangor was opposed to the order as the subject had been fully examined last year, without finding any opportunity for retrenchment.

Mr. Barnes of Portland had voted against the amendment for the reasons stated by the gentleman from Saco. He also opposed the order, on the ground of impossibility of one committee properly examining the whole subject.

Mr. Knowlton of Liberty spoke in favor of the order, and the necessity of retrenchment.

The order then passed, 84 to 22.

The Speaker appointed as this Committee, Messrs. Knowlton of Montville, Little, Jarvis, Bradbury, Paine of Bangor, Fox and Morill. Mr. Jarvis was excused, and Mr. Hubbard appointed in his stead. Mr. Little was also excused, and the chair appointed Mr. Baker of Hallowell, who also asked to be excused. Mr. Perkins of Au-

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WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10.

At 12 M. the Senate went into Convention with the House, and having returned, on motion of Mr

The following communication in the Maui Farmer we esteem of the first importance to the Farming interest. Read it, Farmers, and act accordingly.

SEED WHEAT.—THRASHED BY MACHINES OR OTHERWISE.

MR. HOLMES.—Your correspondent who dates at Sebec, says that his neighbor tells him that since he has had his thrashing done by a thrashing machine, or horse power, his crops have degenerated; and that last year some of his seed was thrashed by hand and some by a machine, and he found that the seed thrashed by hand produced the best crop, the seed being otherwise equal. The same fact has been observed by other farmers, and was long since mentioned by a member in the old Winthrop Agricultural Society.

INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS.—I have raised wheat in the county of Kennebec for more than fifty years, and for a long time have kept the same fact in view, and has, also, been mentioned in your paper before. I take it to be a fact that like produces like. If this be so, then nothing but the best ought to be sown and while we have the wheat thrashed very clean by horse power, and winnowed by a separator or winnowing machine, and sow it in that state, we do not sow the best. Winnow it over again in a smart wind, and it will do much good;—use nothing to sow but the butt end of the heap, then wash and skim off all the light kernels, then lime &c. Make as strong a brine as you can by boiling salt in water, then put your wheat into that and skin off all that will swim. In this way you are pretty sure to get nothing but the heaviest and most healthy part to sow, which in the only part that ever ought to be sown. Bad seed is a deception, and worse than nothing. Exchange of seed is sometimes necessary, but always exchange with those who have better seed than your own. Never rely on any one thing, but on every means in your power both with seed and land. Wheat is the golden crop in this State, particularly in the northern and eastern parts, and the raising of it is important. Communicate to the public every advantage you discover, and make all necessary inquiries.

Winthrop, Dec. 25, 1843.

THE MECHANIC.—There is no dispute about it, many individuals look upon the mechanic as inferior to the trader, the merchant, the lawyer. The women too have caught the fever, and it is laughable to see the delicate creatures turn up their noses and curl their lips, when they are approached by a hard working, honest man, dressed in his homespun, with brown hands and sunburnt face. But where would they be if it were not for the mechanic? They are dependant upon him for almost all they possess and enjoy, and yet they pretend to despise him.—Port. Amer.

FEMALE POLITICIANS are described by Eugene Sue in his novel called "Matilda," as follows:—"They are a babbling race, inspired with ambitious passions, as egotistical as men are, and gifted with none of the qualities or graces of women; sterility of mind, coldness and feeblemess of heart, severity of character, pretensions to wisdom ridiculously exaggerated, constitute their characteristick; in a word, political women are a mixture of the schoolmaster and stepmother, and whether married or not, always resemble old maids."

DEMOCRATIC MOTTO.—The Richmond Enquirer has raised the following motto: "UNION—Our choice, the nomine of the National Democratic Convention—under this flag we will conquer in 1844." We of the Portland American adopt the same motto, and take our position with the great democratic army, under the same banner. "Live or die, survive or perish," in the coming contest we shall be there.

So say we.—Oxford Democrat

WOOD is said to be so hardened now as to answer the purpose of iron in railways. This it is said, is done by exhausting the air from the wood by an air pump, and then saturating it with iron and lime in solution. Wood submitted to this process has been used for some time on railroads in England, and found so firm as to have been scarcely marked by the wheels of the cars.

NEW KIND of INK. Some "live yankee" has invented a new kind of ink, called the "lover-letter ink." The virtue of this ink consists in its being a sure preventive against all cases of "breach of promise," as the ink fades away and leaves the sheet blank again about four weeks after being written upon.

THE MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.—Ten miles of pipe, containing the conductors, have been laid between Baltimore and Washington. When it is finished, news can be conveyed from one place to the other in two seconds. Hem!

ABOUT one hundred and fifty persons attached their names to the total abstinence pledge last week, at Mr. Gough's lectures. It is a glorious way to commence the new year.

If the members of the Legislature would answer the expectations of their constituents, they must see what is necessary to be done, do it, and go home.—Frontier Journal.

LIST OF LETTERS
REMAINING in the Post Office at Paris, Me. Dec. 30, 1843.

Andrews Sullivan
Bates Lucy G.
Brett Luther
Bent William
Briggs Joseph
Cummings Simeon
Danham Ransom
Doe Wm. W.
Emery S. & Son
Fuller Nathaniel
Ghass Dolly S.
Heath William
Hall Abijah 2
Holmes Austin A.
Jackson Sybil Ann 2
Keen Mary T.
Kittredge Clas.
Moore Wm.
Merrill John R.
Walker Rev. Joseph
Walker Lucy A.
GEO. W. MILLETT, P. M.

WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS

The true character of Counterfeitors and sellers of counterfeit Medicines.

NO medicine has ever been introduced to the American public, whose name have been more cheerfully and universally acknowledged by its vast popularity and extensive circulation than "Wright's Indian Vegetable Pill." To descent upon their various virtues at this late season would be a work of supererogation, since few who peruse this article will be found unacquainted with the widely circulated proofs of the real excellency of the medicine, to which many will be ready to add the testimonials of their own experience. But further proof were needed, and it is now furnished in the fact that homoeopathic in the market has been so much and repeatedly counterfeited. Ignorant, unprincipled, and unprincipled men, have in different places, manufactured a spurious pill, bearing a superficial resemblance to the true article, but composed either impotent or deleterious ingredients, which they have sought to impose upon the public as the veritable.

INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS.

These fraudulent swindlers could never pass off their wiles upon the public but for the continuance and assistance of (self-styled) respectable druggists, who, for the sake of a little filthy lucre, lend themselves to this notorious and unwholesome system of imposition. The counterfeiter of a popular medicine is more criminal than a counterfeiter of current money. The injury done by the latter, tends to the destruction of the former. Those inflicted upon society by the former, we might say, stand at the head of their profession.

Again, gastric irritation delicates the digestive organs and becomes a fruitful source of disease in some people. Diarrhoea, in others, Liver Complaint, Rheumatism, Hydrocephalus, Asthma, Gout, Piles, Epilepsy, Liver Sprites, Chronic Disease, Pulmonary Consumption, Stick Headache, &c.

These Pills are composed of extracts from nine parts of the Vegetable kingdom. They are warranted safe in all operations and effects. They are simple in the preparation, mild in their effects, and unirritating to the system. They have long received the most unanimous recommendation from the Medical Faculty, and are recommended by the attention and trial of all those subject to the effects of Bilious, Diarrhoeic, and other diseases of the stomach, liver and bowels. These Pills have long been without a successful rival in Germany, and throughout Europe, and many years in various parts of the United States, by the most eminent Physicians, as a Family Medicine.

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